Don’t Plagiarize

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Academic Misconduct

IU Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct: Academic Misconduct
http://www.iu.edu/~code/code/responsibilities/academic/index.shtml

Cheating (using unauthorized assistance)

Fabrication (falsifying or inventing information)

Interference (stealing/destroying someone’s work)

Violation of Course Rules (read syllabus)

Facilitating Academic Dishonesty

Plagiarism
Plagiarism
“Presenting someone else’s work . . . as one’s own”

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Copying text is plagiarism (without quotes and attribution)

What is the Internet?

✔ Option 1: Explain in your own words

✗ Option 2: Copy from Wikipedia

“The Internet is a global system of interconnected computer networks that use the standard Internet protocol suite (often called TCP/IP, although not all applications use TCP) to serve billions of users worldwide.”

This text was taken from Wikipedia: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Internet!
Copying text is plagiarism (without quotes and attribution)

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Common excuses
1. It’s so obvious, I was just reproducing facts.
2. They explained it better than I would have.

Response
You’re still passing off somebody else’s presentation of the facts as your own.

Fix
Quote text and acknowledge source.
Simple modifications are not enough

What is the Internet?

✗ Option 3: Modify text from Wikipedia

Wikipedia
“The Internet is a global system of interconnected computer networks that use the standard Internet protocol suite (often called TCP/IP, although not all applications use TCP) to serve billions of users worldwide.” — http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Internet

✗ Student’s attempt
The Internet, a world-wide system of interconnected computer networks, is one that uses the standardized Internet protocol suite (TCP/IP, although not all applications use TCP) to serve a large population of users globally.
Simple modifications are not enough

Wikipedia

“The Internet is a global system of interconnected computer networks that use the standard Internet protocol suite (often called TCP/IP, although not all applications use TCP) to serve billions of users worldwide.” — [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Internet](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Internet)

Student's attempt

The Internet, a world-wide system of interconnected computer networks, is one that uses the standardized Internet protocol suite (TCP/IP, although not all applications use TCP) to serve a large population of users globally.

Common excuse

But I reworded the text in my own words.

Response

Actually, you didn’t. It was bad paraphrasing, and you are still passing off somebody else’s structured presentation as your own.

Fix

Acknowledge source and rewrite with your own structure.
Question
How would you improve TCP Reno’s congestion avoidance algorithm?

Answer (paraphrasing online source)
✗ (After Googling and finding TCP Hybla)
“To improve on TCP’s penalty on connections with long RTTs, the additive increase can be modified to factor in the RTT. Thus connections with large RTTs would speed up transmission rates like a low-RTT connection.”
Question:
How would you improve TCP Reno's congestion avoidance algorithm?

Answer:
× (After Googling and finding TCP Hybla)
“TCP Reno has a penalty on connections with long RTTs. I propose modifying the additive increase to factor in the RTT. Thus, connections with large RTTs would speed up transmission rates like a low-RTT connection.”

Common excuse
But I wrote it completely in my own words.

Response
You are still passing off somebody else’s idea as your own.

Fix
Acknowledge source of the idea.
Prescriptive ideas to avoid plagiarism

✔ Come up with your own ideas!
   (graduate school... higher learning)

✔ Distance yourself from the original text
   (Paraphrasing: “in your own words”)

✔ Required: Cite and reference your sources
   (always, and even if the source is your friend)

✔ Required: Quotation marks when copying text
   (always, ... and beware of over-quoting)
Prescriptive ideas to avoid plagiarism

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Citation and Reference (paraphrase)

To improve on TCP's penalty on connections with long RTTs, the additive increase can be modified to factor in the RTT as suggested by Caini and Firrincieli with TCP Hybla [1]. Thus connections with large RTTs would speed up transmission rates like a low-RTT connection.

Prescriptive ideas to avoid plagiarism

Citation and Reference (quote+paraphrase)

Caini and Firrincieli [1, p1] observe that “TCP connections that incorporate a terrestrial or satellite radio link are greatly disadvantaged with respect to entirely wired connections, because of their longer round trip times (RTTs)”. To improve on TCP’s penalty on connections with long RTTs, they propose TCP Hybla where the additive increase is modified to factor in the RTT. Thus connections with large RTTs would speed up transmission rates like a low-RTT connection.

Don’t need to attribute ‘common knowledge’
(common for the class!)

What protocol prevents congestive collapse and how (in your own words)?

✔ No need to cite textbook. Why?
✔ Common knowledge to students in class
✔ Obviously not plagiarizing
✗ Still, you cannot copy/paste text!

Previous TCP Hybla example
✗ Was not common knowledge to class
Don’t need to attribute ‘common knowledge’

Not sure what is common knowledge? Check with your instructor!

Examples of common knowledge
Information from assigned readings
“Do most students in the class already know this?”
Yes, there are gray areas
Consequences of Plagiarism (at IU)

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if professor assigns penalty {
    professor MUST file a report to Dean of Students;
}

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  Don’t beg and plead
  “Please don’t report me”
  Not reporting is a serious violation for a faculty member

  Reporting != throwing you out of school
  (can lead to it for repeat offenders)

  Process designed to
  a) protect student, professor, and university
  b) catch misconduct across classes}